

COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, December 6, 1985

Present: C. Bertrand, Chairperson; G. Valaskakis; D. Dicks; F. Shlosser; C. Foster; T. Arbuckle-Maag; V.V. Baba; W. Byers; A. Costanzo; R. Cronin, s.j.; L. Crysler; J. Doyle; J. Hill; W. Knitter; D. Markiewicz; D. McDougall; H. McQueen; G. Newsham; J. Ryan; B. Sahni; W. Sellers; D. Shapiro; R. Sharma; H. Shulman; G. Trudel; L. Van Toch; H. Breslow; D. Goldsmith; K. Goral; D. Konig; M. Lange; D. Lindsay; J. Locke; J. Stosik.

Absent with regrets: M. Barlow; A. Broes; D. Brown; S. Mullett; B. Petrie; K. Waters; S. Van Breevort.

Guests: C. Kalman (Physics); S. Erlwanger (Mathematics).

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dean Bertrand announced that the Secretary of Council had left the room to remind two or three members that Council was eagerly awaiting their presence. He suggested that the meeting begin and that any decisions that needed to be ratified could be ratified when quorum was reached. The meeting began at 1:45 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chairperson asked to have the agenda re-ordered in such a way as to place item 8 before item 6.

85-10-1 It was moved and seconded (Valaskakis/Sahni) to approve the agenda as re-ordered.

Vote: Carried

It was agreed that approval of the minutes would be deferred until after arrival of a few more members and the meeting turned to item 4.

3. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Dean Bertrand announced the results of the elections for the Dean's Advisory Committee: Profs. T. Arbuckle-Maag (Psychology); H. Famira (Modern Languages and Linguistics); W. Gilsdorf (Communication Studies); and D. Frost (Geography) as alternate. The Dean's appointees to the Committee are Profs. S. Ruby (Biology); M. Baldwin (Chemistry); S. McDonough (Religion); and W. Sellers (Exercise Science) as alternate.

It was reported that Mme. Jérôme-Forget, Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations and Finance, had agreed to continue the maximum \$100.00 allowance for books and subscriptions to members of faculty and library personnel as has been the practice in the past, and that the Dean would release the money.

Referring to the budget for the Faculty, Dean Bertrand informed the members that it is slightly above what he had asked for in his submission to the Rector and Vice-Rector. He said that this was an indication to him that the upper administration accepted the argument about the importance of the academic sector and of making sure that the money is going to be spent in that area with cuts being made in other areas. He added that the budget is still tight but it is a more realistic one within which it will be possible to live. Replies to the final budget will be sent to Departments shortly, and everyone will be expected to adhere to the budget.

Dean Bertrand read excerpts from an open letter, which had been circulated widely amongst faculty by a member of the Biology Department, concerning the University's deficit and suggested ways the problem could be solved. The Dean said that from his point of view the memorandum was a bit premature since it suggests that we continue to run a deficit, and continue on much as we have been, which was the decision made by the Board of Governors. He added that from the tone of the memorandum it would seem that the writer does not believe that the upper administration cares about academics, but from his recent experience he thought that to be an incorrect interpretation.

With regard to a number of rumours alluded to in the letter, Dean Bertrand confirmed that he does have a leased car at \$296.00 per month to facilitate his travelling from one campus to another, but that the University does not pay for insurance or gasoline. He then gave the reason for the difference between the amount of money allotted by the Department of Education for each science student (\$6,000.00) and the amount given to the Biology Department (\$1,000.00) saying that the amount is not the former but only seventy percent of that and the funding will only appear in the 1986/87 budget, making the situation even more complicated than indicated in the memorandum. Concerning the eight professors who, it was said, had left the University, Dean Bertrand said that he knew of only one professor in the Faculty of Arts and Science from Mathematics and that person was leaving for personal reasons. He thought that the names of the eight people should have been included in the statement.

Dean Bertrand ended his remarks by saying that the suggestion that the University be put under trusteeship might be a simple

solution in the short term but disastrous in the long term. Should that happen, the academic priorities would not be given first consideration if the matter were put in the hands of an accountant. He said that he agreed with the thrust of the memo that the money should be put into academic matters.

5. QUESTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was asked if the total budget for Arts and Science is lower than that for last year. The Chairperson replied that it is not; that there is a substantial increase for salary items because the main deficit in the Faculty for the past four years has been in the part-time category and that he had argued for, and received, the amount of money that the Faculty actually needs to run the operation. Built in, as well, is the amount needed for a salary increase for faculty on January 1, 1986. On the non-salary budget an exercise in cutting was made on last year's expenses. He said that these changes result in an overall budget that reflects about a seven percent cut in what was spent and amounts to about five percent over what was budgeted last year.

Asked if the Faculty is in a position of attrition, the Dean replied that he did not think that was so in terms of the number of positions, but that it was so in terms of salaries for those positions, and that some departments may end up in a position of attrition because others are in a position of growth.

Dean Bertrand was asked to comment on the article by Dr. Jérôme-Forget, Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations and Finance, which appeared in the Thursday Report. He replied that he had not read the report and could not comment on it as yet.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

85-10-2 It was moved and seconded (Sahni/Doyle) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 23, 1985.

Vote: Carried

85-10-3 It was moved and seconded (Valaskakis/Van Toch) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 8, 1985.

It was noted that motion 85-9-15 had been moved by Ms. Lifshitz and that her name should replace that of Ms. Konig on page seven of the minutes.

The minutes, as amended, were approved and adopted.

6. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS CONCERNING PRIZES
(ASFC 85-10-D2)

85-10-4 It was moved and seconded (Byers/Shlosser) that the Arts and Science

Faculty Council recommends to Senate that the wording of The Walter Raudorf Medal for Physics be changed to read: "awarded to the most outstanding graduating student with an honours, or specialization degree, or equivalent standing in Physics".

Prof. Kalman, who was given speaking privileges, said the department wished to make the change to avoid a problem such as had occurred last year. He explained that the honours and specialization programmes have a great number of mandatory 400-level courses, some of which are extremely difficult, and that the new statement would make it clear that a student with an honours or specialization could be awarded the medal based on a lower GPA than that of a major student who has taken less difficult courses while still allowing for major students who have taken equivalent courses to be eligible for the award.

In the discussion that followed, it was suggested that the present wording could achieve that goal. On the other hand, it was said that despite a department's objection, on occasion Council has insisted that the award be given to the student with the highest score.

A vote was taken on the motion and it was carried.

Prof. Ryan requested that it be stated in the minutes that the motion was passed without the intention of creating a precedent with respect to other departments' wording of awards.

85-10-5

It was moved and seconded (Trudel/Goldsmith) that the Arts and Science Faculty Council recommends to the Board of Graduate Studies and Senate that the Nishith Mukerji Medal in Physics be established to be awarded annually, when merited, to the M.Sc. (thesis student) with the highest standing in the programme.

Vote: Carried

It was noted that since this is a departmental medal, it need not be approved by Senate, but will appear in the undergraduate announcement following its approval by Faculty Council.

7. ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF GRADUATE STUDIES
(ASFC 85-10-D3, uncirculated)

An election was held between Profs. R. McKay (TESL) and R. Rye (Chemistry) and was won by Prof. McKay. He will replace Prof. I. Smith (History) who has been unable to attend meetings of the Board of Graduate Studies because of a teaching commitment. Prof. McKay's term will end in May 1987.

8. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT - ADDENDUM TO REPORT 50G - DIPLOMA IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS (ASFC 85-10-D1)

Vice-Dean Dicks reported that the proposed revisions in the Diploma in the Teaching of Mathematics involve existing courses in Mathe-

matics and, to a lesser degree Education, at the diploma level and was organized to serve a new clientele because the clientele for the present programme is dwindling.

The Chairman of the Education Department objected to the fact that he was never consulted or informed officially of the changes in the programme. His second objection was to a different matter. He said that it may be appropriate for the Mathematics Department to combine with the Education Department to take advantage of interesting integration of computers into education, however, whether it is wise, or done well, requires that questions be raised of a different kind than learning how to use the computers or learning how to use mathematics. He noted that there is a large amount of literature on education innovation, most of which has to do with why innovations turn out so badly, and there was no evidence of this aspect in the programme. Neither was there any reference to the social consequences of bringing computers into the work place and into the education establishments. However unfortunate it would be to slow up the passage of the programme, he felt that there should be further consultation.

In answer to a question about resource implications, Prof. Dicks said that there were none because the programme uses existing courses and the intake of students is set at twelve.

Prof. Erlwanger, who was given speaking privileges, reported that his department is aware of the social consequences of computers and, in thinking of teachers, they have introduced technology with care. He noted that AV 539, Topics in Computer Education, and the same course under Math 532 under Option C, were included to allow for special topics such as Social Consequences of Using Computers, to be introduced as the need arises. With regard to the financial implications, Prof. Erlwanger noted that the programme was devised as a consequence of the division of the Master's programme and for better utilization of computer resources in the department.

On behalf of his department, the Chairman of Mathematics apologized for the fact that the Chairman of Education was not consulted on the development of the programme and said that it was his impression that that had taken place. He indicated that the Mathematics Department has a group within it that has been recognized by the University, at all levels, of people whose career is in education, particularly mathematics education, and it has always proposed programmes and courses that interrelate with education.

One member stated that Council ought to be aware also, that the group of people involved in the programme of teaching mathematics is recognized, not only in the University but outside as well, as having expertise in the teaching of mathematics and are primarily educationalists.

A short discussion on the consequences of not approving the proposal at this meeting followed. It was said that it would be unfortunate if the programme were to disappear because of some time delay.

Prof. Knitter stated that he was more concerned about the absence of a course on the social aspects of computers as a formal matter in the programme than he was about not being consulted. He did not think it satisfactory to have a topic heading under which such matters might be treated some time in the future.

- 85-10-8 It was moved and seconded (Maag/Sahni) to amend the motion to accept the proposal in principal with the understanding that it will be forwarded to Senate only after members of the Departments of Mathematics and Education have met with the Vice-Dean, Curriculum and Administrative Affairs and have resolved the problem raised in Council.

Vote: Carried

The motion as amended was voted on and it was carried.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

10. NEXT MEETING

January 10, 1986

11. ADJOURNMENT

Before calling for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dean Bertrand wished everybody a very nice holiday and a happy New Year.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. (Breslow/Goldsmith).